

Bellu Memorial, Bucharest, Romania, 22-26 February 2023

Senior Women Jojo Hong

ISU Junior World Figure Skating Championships, Calgary, Canada, 27 February - 5 March

Junior Men Dwayne Li
Coach & Unfunded TL Bess Cao

ISU World Figure Skating Championships, Saitama, Japan, 20 - 26 March

Senior Dance Charlotte Lafond-Fournier & Ricky Kam
Team Leader Kaho Hirafune

ISU International Adult Competition, Oberstdorf, Germany, 15-20 May

Bronze II Women Artistic & Freeskate	Victoria Marinova
Bronze IV Women Artistic & Freeskate	Sally Garelja
Bronze IV Women Artistic & Freeskate	Trish Weir
Bronze III Men Artistic & Freeskate	Alastair Christie
Silver II Women, Artistic & Freeskate	Olga Levien
Silver IV Women, Artistic & Freeskate	Tammy Cowan

**OCEANIA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AND COACHES SEMINAR, AUCKLAND
15-19 MAY 2023**

We are co-hosting, with Ice Skating Australia, the Oceania International Competition at Paradise Botany in Auckland 15-17 May. After consulting with our Australian counterparts we have had to narrow the focus of this competition to Singles only, Basic Novice to Senior level skaters. The competition will be followed by a coach development seminar 18 & 19 May. We will have an announcement and more details about the competition and coach development seminar very soon. In the meantime, skaters can you please submit an expression of interest by 17 February if you are planning to take part in this competition.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2023OceaniaInternationalCompetitionEOI>

FOUR CONTINENTS ADVANCED NOVICE WORKSHOP

Parallel with the ISU Four Continents Championships, U.S. Figure Skating, with the support of the ISU Development Commission, are hosting a workshop for Advanced Novice aged skaters. Four Continents members have been invited to send 1-2 girls and 1-2 boys, along with their coaches and a team official. An invitation was extended to our skaters that made Selection to the International A and B Teams, with the priority order based on our Selection Policy. The following group are very excited to be heading away to Colorado Springs next week:

Cara Tang	Skater
Jazz Evangelou	Skater
Dwayne Li	Skater
Bess Cao	Coach of Cara and Dwayne
Stephanie Woodacre	Coach of Jazz
Caitlyn Paul	Team Leader / Team Official

What an amazing opportunity for young skaters to watch the top skaters train and compete, be coached by some outstanding international coaches, and to train alongside other outstanding young skaters. For coaches this is a great opportunity to get alongside some top coaches and develop some great networks. We look forward to reporting back to you in our next newsletter.

RECENT INTER CLUB INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Dunedin based Cutting Edge synchronized skating team have just returned from competing in two Inter Club international competitions in Europe, and clearly made the most of this trip.

Britannia Cup, Nottingham, Great Britain, 14 - 15 January 2023

Mixed Age Cutting Edge FS 5th/9 Overall 5th/9

Amade Cup, Salzburg, Austria, 20 - 22 January 2023

Mixed Age Cutting Edge FS 7th/14 Overall 7th/14

Some notes from Megan Kliegl – Coach, Cutting Edge

What an incredible honour this tour was. Dunedin Ice Skating Club’s synchronised skating team, Cutting Edge represented both club and country at 2 international events, firstly The Britannia Cup in Nottingham, UK and then the Amade Cup in Salzburg, Austria.

Britannia Cup – held in the breathtakingly beautiful Motorpoint Arena, the team were immediately submersed in the gravity of the event when greeted by Torvill and Dean’s Olympic costumes framed in the entry – after all, Nottingham was the training grounds for these incredible athletes. The team skated a solid free program and finished in 5th place (out of 9) with a total score 49.50.

A few days later, the team made the trek to Salzburg, Austria. Our winter dreams were realised, each day was met with more snow and sub-zero temperatures. We loved every minute. We were honoured to have Marigold Ice Unity (Finland) coach and my mentor, Anu Oksanen spend some time with us.



In between the skating, we did and saw a lot! Exploring Manchester, Munich and Zurich were extraordinary stops along an already remarkable journey.

Highlights – All of our goals, realised! At the Amade Cup, our intersection, point of intersection and spin element were awarded at level 3. Grant Howie also made the trip from Bristol to join us, being reunited for those weekend’s made for a lot of laughter and fun! This was also the first time New Zealand was represented at these prestigious competitions, it was an honour Megan, Anu & Grant to be the first team to do so. Watching some of the world’s best synchronised teams ignited a passion in our skaters to achieve even more, the technique, skill and speed of those teams is something to behold – synchronised skating is breath-taking, we highly recommend it.

Thank you's – As a team, we are incredibly grateful to a big team of people that have helped us get to where we are, including family, friends, DISC coaches and sponsors. Special mentions are required for **Team manager, Kim Brown** – we'd be lost without her (metaphorically and physically). A role model to us all - always organised, always up with the play. **Sandra Williamson-Leadley and the NZIFSA** – thank you for holding us to standards that make us competitive overseas. Your constant support, guidance and leadership have paved much of the way for synchro to hold its own overseas. Talking with the president of British Ice Skating, it came as no surprise to hear how incredibly respected Sandra is overseas, we're lucky to have her in team NZIFSA. **DISC** – thanks for being our home. We are proud to be your synchro team!

Where to next for us? We say farewell to some athletes as they move away from Dunedin for University. We are looking for new members to join us, so if you're interested in being a part of a successful, happy, hardworking team – please get in touch.

Jazelle McCormick – Captain, Cutting Edge

Skating two competitions in Europe this past month was such an incredible experience. From the most engulfing National skating arena in Nottingham, training outdoors in the snow in negative temperatures, and experiencing the roaring atmosphere of the Amade cup in Austria, we really had the trip of a lifetime. With the



support of family and friends from all over the world we managed two great skates, making ourselves proud with our scores and finishing in the top half at both competitions.

Coming home, we feel so full with our passion for skating. This trip was a constant reminder of the joy and love we have for skating and being surrounded by people who mirror this happiness. We met up with old skating pals, spent time with our greatest skating mentors and support crew – Sandra Williamson-Leadley and Anu Oksanen, and met many other lovely faces along the way including Alan Wild – the 1975-1977 NZ ice dance champion. We experienced skating on many different rinks over several countries, England, Austria and Germany, including skating (very poorly) in rental skates on public ice outdoors at the centre of town in Austria and laughing the whole way.

A highlight of our time skating overseas was certainly getting the opportunity to really immerse ourselves in synchro. For the first time we were surrounded by upwards of 80 teams from all around the world who live and breathe the team spirit, an experience we have never had in New Zealand.

The athleticism, passion and sportsmanship were admirable. These values that are at the centre of our skating have always been present in our team but are coming back to our home rink with us forevermore vibrant. We are proud to be synchro skaters and grateful we got to show the rest of the world what NZ synchro can do.

CLUCAS CUP (SELECTION COMPETITION), AUCKLAND 3 & 4 JUNE 2023

In recognition of the contribution made to figure skating, the Board are very pleased to advise of the decision to name the Selection Competition after our late Patron, Wendy Clucas (nee Grafton).

The Clucas Cup will be awarded to the skater/ couple / or team that gains the highest percentage above the A team Selection TES, with the highest unfactored programme component score as the deciding factor if more than 1 skater is on a par.

As per the NZIFSA Selection Policy, this competition is to determine selection and priority order for international competitions with a closing date between 7 July 2023 and one week after our National Championships. The competition will be open to skaters in Basic Novice to Senior grades in all disciplines, plus Mixed Age Synchronized skating, who competed at the 2022 National Championships and who are age eligible for international competition in their respective grade as at 1 July 2023. If you any have questions regarding eligibility, please email the Secretary at secretary@nzifs.org.nz. The entry form will be available soon on the NZIFSA website.

CHANGES TO COACH ACCREDITATION LEVELS

Following consultation, the Coaches Accreditation Policy has been amended to align our coaching levels more closely with the ISU Coach Education Qualification Framework. The coach accreditation levels are now:

- KiwiSkate Assistant
- KiwiSkate Coach
- Level 1 (Intro to coaching)
- Level 2 (Previously Level 1)
- Level 3 (Previously Level 2)
- Level 4 (Previously Level 3)

References to coach accreditation levels in the Rules & Regulations have also been updated to reflect the above changes.

The coach membership and continuing education points form is also now an online form available via the Forms page of our website. Coaches, including KiwiSkate coaches can now register for 2023 using the link below.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/CoachingMembershipAndContinuingEducationPoints2023>

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR 2023

Skater Development

We have a number of training camps planned for 2023 and we are starting off with some youth interpretive workshops in February. The remaining training camps will be held in April and May.

Youth Interpretive camps in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin

We have three Youth Interpretive development camps planned for 2023. Each training camp has between 5 and 6 hours of ice time as well as off-ice activities. Note these times are approximate only, and we will have detailed schedules for participants prior to each seminar.

Christchurch 11 & 12 February (starting 4:30pm on Saturday and finishing 3:00pm on Sunday)

Dunedin 11 & 12 February (starting 1:30pm on Saturday and finishing 2:00pm on Sunday)

Auckland (Botany) 18 & 19 February (starting 3:30pm on Saturday and finishing 6:45pm on Sunday)

Who are these training camps for? These camps are for skaters aged 12-17 who are interested in skating in the Youth Interpretive categories or want to improve their interpretation of music through body and skating movements. There is no emphasis on jumps and spins.

Since we have opened the Youth Interpretive grade so that skaters can compete in both Youth Interpretive & standard events in 2023, we are also opening these training camps to all singles skaters who meet the age bracket requirement for Youth Interpretive. Skaters do not need to be club members to take part in these camps. Hopefully if we can spark their interest, they will join clubs so that they can take part in club competitions in the future.

Registrations have been extended to **Friday 3 February**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2023YouthInterpretiveWorkshopsAKLCHCDND

The cost for skaters to attend is **\$100**.

Accredited Coaches may attend for free. Note, KiwiSkate or Apprentice Level 2 coaches can attend as coaches, but only if they are not planning to compete in the Youth Interpretive grade this year. They will be invoiced retrospectively if their plans change and they enter a Youth Interpretive competition in 2023.

Singles Basic Novice to Senior camp, Auckland (Botany), 7-10 April

We are very pleased to confirm Keegan Murphy as the international moderator for this workshop. Keegan represented Canada internationally on the Junior Grand Prix Circuit for 5 years and won the silver medal at the 2002 Canadian Championships in Junior Men. In his 10 years of coaching, Keegan has quickly produced a stable of provincial and national champions as well as international competitors on the Junior Grand Prix Circuit, ISU Junior World Championships and ISU Senior International Circuit.

We anticipate the camp will start early afternoon on Friday 7 April and will finish around 7:30pm on Monday 10 April. Participants from outside Auckland should plan to stay in Auckland on the Monday night.

Registration

Registrations are due **by Sunday 24 March**. All skaters must hold the correct test levels by the close of registrations. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2023CampForBasicNoviceToSeniorSkaters

Cost information:

- \$100 for Basic & Intermediate Novice Grades - NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$200 for Basic & Intermediate Novice Grades - Any Other Skaters
- \$200 for Advanced Novice, Junior & Senior - NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$400 for Advanced Novice, Junior & Senior - Any Other Skaters
- \$100 for Level 2 – 4 Coaches

Skaters will be divided into the two groups, with different programmes designed to best meet their needs. Skaters may be moved between groups at the discretion of the Moderator.

Synchronized Skating camp, Auckland (Botany), 21-23 April

We are pleased to advise that Heather Paige has confirmed her availability for this training camp. Heather was the “virtual” coach that we engaged in 2022 and we are looking forward to having her here in person this year. Heather is a Moderator/Mentor for the ISU SYS Technical Committee and Coach/Director of the Starlights SYS teams out of the Chicago area in the US.

Registration

Registrations are due **by Thursday 6 April**. Skaters and coaches can register online at: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2023SynchronizedSkatingTrainingCamp>

Cost information:

- \$60 for KiwiSkate, Elementary and Basic Novice team members
- \$120 for Advanced Novice, Junior and Senior team members
- \$60 for Level 2 – 4 Coaches

This camp is not being offered to our adult teams. NZIFSA and local clubs are exploring alternative options for providing support to our adult teams.

Singles Pre-Elementary, Elementary & Juvenile, Auckland (Botany) and Gore 29 & 30 April.

We are pleased to confirm that we are holding two training camps for Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile level skaters. Please note - the South Island camp is now being held in Gore as we were unable to get confirmation of ice time in Queenstown.

A special thank you to Fiona & Ross Haslemore at the **Charlton Motel** in Gore for sponsoring the accommodation for the coach moderator for the Camp in Gore.

The following times are a guideline so that people can plan their travel. More detailed information will be provided closer to the time.

Auckland (Botany), 29 & 30 April (Saturday morning starting 6.00am and Sunday finishing midday)

Gore, 29 & 30 April (starting 2:30pm Saturday and finishing around 1.30pm on Sunday)

Registration

Registrations are due **by Friday 14 April**. Skaters and coaches can register online at: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2023PreElementaryToJuvenileCampsAKLORgore>

Cost information:

\$50 for NZIFSA Development Squad Members

\$120 for all other skaters

Kiwiskate and Level 1 – 4 Coaches – Free

Coach Moderators for Pre-Elementary, Elementary & Juvenile Camps – Auckland & Gore

NZIFSA are seeking expressions of interest from coaches interested in being a moderator for these camps. We anticipate that Level 3 coaches are more likely to have the skill set and level of experience we are seeking, however Level 2 coaches will be considered.

Coaches have been asked to complete the online form outlining their skill set and experience and motivation for applying by **18 February 2023**.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/EOIModeratorForSkaterCamps2023>

Coaching Courses

Three KiwiSkate Coaching Courses and a Level 1 (previously Intro to Coaching) Coaching Course are planned.

The KiwiSkate courses are open to new KiwiSkate coaches as well as currently accredited coaches wishing to attain points to maintain their accreditation. The **course cost is \$70**.

The courses cover two levels:

- KiwiSkate Assistant Course - individuals must be 14 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and it is recommended they hold an Elementary test in any discipline.
- KiwiSkate Coach Course – individuals must be 15 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and must hold an Elementary test in any discipline. Coaches from different codes may apply to the Coaching Director for test dispensation based on their achievements/qualifications.

Please contact the Coaching Director at coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz if you have any questions regarding your eligibility.

All attendees must also pay the appropriate coach membership fee prior to registration. The online coach membership form can be found on the Forms page of the NZIFSA website <https://nzifsa.org.nz/forms/>.

KiwiSkate course – Dunedin Ice Stadium, 4 & 5 March

The course will start around midday on Saturday and finish early afternoon on Sunday.

Registration for this course closes on **Sunday 19 February**

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseDunedin45March2023>

KiwiSkate course – Paradise Botany, Auckland, 4 & 5 March

The course will start early afternoon on Saturday and finish around midday on Sunday.

Registration for this course closes on **Sunday 19 February**

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseAuckland45March2023>

KiwiSkate course – Alpine Ice, Christchurch 1 & 2 April (note correction to dates)

The course will start mid-afternoon on Saturday and finish late evening on Sunday.

Registration for this course closes on **Sunday 19 March**

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseChristchurch12April2023>

Note, the times given above are a guide only. The detailed schedule will be sent out prior to each course.

Our Coaching Directors are currently finalising plans for running a **Level 1** (previously Intro to Coaching) course using the ISU Global Coach Education Level 1 course materials. We will have more details regarding this soon.

Officials Training in March, April & May

We have a number of officials training activities planned. If you have any questions regarding any of these please contact the Officials Director at officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz.

- New Probationary and Tier 1 Officials - All Disciplines and Program Components - online session 11 & 12 March
- Referee training. All Disciplines - online sessions 18 March
- Singles & Pairs - Judge & Technical Seminar – Christchurch 29 & 30 April
- Synchronized & Ice Dance - Judge & Technical Seminar – Christchurch 6 & 7 May
- Data Operator/Replay Operator training alongside the above – Christchurch 6 & 7 May

Below is a link to an expression of interest form for Officials and Coaches to indicate which Officials' training seminars they are interested in attending in 2023. This is for Expressions of Interest only - PLEASE DO NOT BOOK FLIGHTS YET.

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2023OfficialsTrainingEOI>

Coaches are invited to attend the training seminars for professional development. This is a great opportunity to learn what happens behind the scenes and maybe even inspire new Tech Specialists. Coaches will be eligible for funding (as per the amounts in the Travel & Reimbursement Policy) to attend one of the Christchurch face-to-face seminars of their choice. Continuing Education Points can be gained as per the Coaches Accreditation Policy - Appendix C.

NZIFSA AGM – CHRISTCHURCH, SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023

The NZIFSA AGM is to be held in Christchurch on 19 March and will be preceded by member forums. We encourage all clubs to ensure they have representation at the AGM.

Unfortunately the Sail GP is on in Christchurch 18-20 March and this is impacting on the cost and availability of return flights to Auckland. We trust that clubs have had sufficient notice to be able to get flights arranged.

The following is an indicative schedule so that clubs can look to book travel - AGM forums 10am – 12noon, then AGM 12noon – 1:00pm, followed by lunch and then Board and Ops & Dev Group meetings 2-6pm.

CONGRATULATIONS!



A few of our coaches have had an exciting few months!

Millie Campbell got married last weekend in Queenstown!

Dunedin based coach, Megan Kliegl & her partner Regan got engaged in November and Christchurch based coach, Sarah MacGibbon had her partner Ashlin pop the question under the Eiffel Tower while on holiday in December.

Congratulations!

NZIFSA POLICIES CURRENTLY OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Board is calling for initial submissions on the **Privacy Policy**, the **Funding Policy** and the **Electronic Meetings Policy**. Please refer to the Members Forums on our website <https://nzifsa.org.nz>. Submissions are due by 13 March 2023. The Board will take these submissions into consideration when they review the policy.

Submissions on the **Travel & Reimbursement Policy** closed on 24 January. There were no initial submissions received, however, the Board will be reviewing this policy at their next meeting on 14 February, and if they consider some amendments should be considered, they will be calling for feedback on any proposed amendments via the Members Forum.

NZIFSA BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board will be held on Tuesday 14 February. If you have any correspondence that you would like the Board to consider, please send it to the General Secretary (secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) by Tuesday 7 February. Any correspondence received now will be tabled at the February meeting.

All the best in skating,
Caitlyn Paul and Jeanette King
Acting President and CEO
NZIFSA